

# Making it personal...

## Social Care Charter

People with learning disabilities or autism should have equal chances to live the life they choose. This charter sets out what people we support want and need to make this a reality.

We are asking MPs to support this charter, ensuring that the wants of people with a learning disability and autism are central to any social reform and social care commissioning.

If we can deliver these promises, we will make a positive and lasting difference to people's lives.



### I want choice and control over my money

People with a learning disability or autism must have the choice to control their money and how it is used. The money must match people's needs.

#### What would good look like?

- ⇒ Every person has a personal budget and/or direct payments to spend on what they need and want
- ⇒ Each person is able to pool their personal budgets to make the most of the benefits available to them
- ⇒ All Local Authorities work in partnership with providers to ensure personalised support – they realise that 'one size does not fit all'
- ⇒ Where people have challenging behaviours the focus is on positive behaviour support.

### I want opportunities for greater independence



People with learning disabilities or autism want a say in where they live, the right to work and training and to be able to do more for themselves.

#### What would good look like?

- ⇒ Employment initiatives provide development opportunities and transition into work
- ⇒ Technology is used to assist people to have more independence and control
- ⇒ People can access learning and development opportunities
- ⇒ Appropriate housing is available with a range of occupancy, tenancy and ownership options
- ⇒ Regulation is balanced. It keeps people safe but promotes positive risk taking that enhances people's life opportunities rather than stifles them.

## I want to be a part of my community

People with a learning disability or autism must be able to enjoy the same activities as everyone else, free of discrimination or harassment.

### What would good look like?

- ⇒ There are autism and learning disability friendly environments making activities such as shopping, banking, sport and entertainment more accessible
- ⇒ Community participation is supported, such as through community partnerships, mentoring and buddy schemes
- ⇒ Mandatory awareness training is provided to improve communication and service delivery (such as for large employers, public sector and healthcare professionals)
- ⇒ Confidence and life-skills training is available for people with learning disabilities or autism
- ⇒ Transport, retail and leisure facilities are accessible to everyone.

## I want to have control and choice over my relationships

People with learning disabilities or autism must be able to have relationships with who they want, when they want and where they want.

### What would good look like?

- ⇒ Choosing who provides day to day support through involvement in the recruitment process
- ⇒ Choosing when and how support is provided through involvement in personal support planning and through using person-centred thinking tools and techniques
- ⇒ Ensuring that families, carers, friends and other important people in each person's life are as involved as needed and wanted
- ⇒ Every person is able to choose who they live with.

Please sign the charter and send it back to us:  
Dimensions Marketing team,  
6 Meetinghouse Lane,  
Sheffield S1 2DP

[www.dimensions-uk.org/charter](http://www.dimensions-uk.org/charter)

## I want to have a voice and be listened to

People with learning disabilities or autism have the right to vote, participate in politics and public service, contribute to consultations and inform decisions that will impact their lives.

### What would good look like?

- ⇒ Policy making is always informed by people with learning disabilities and people with autism
- ⇒ Communications and processes are accessible and support people to engage and participate in public office and public debate
- ⇒ Social care providers operate regional forums and/or national forums made up of people with learning disabilities and autism to inform support design, delivery and business planning
- ⇒ Positive examples of participation are promoted to encourage greater participation and inclusion, such as participation in public consultations
- ⇒ Media are proactively reporting on what matters most to people with learning disabilities and autism, giving people a fair, representative voice.

**I support** the Dimensions Making it personal; Social Care Charter which will enable people with learning disabilities and autism to have equal chances to live the life they choose.

Name:

Email: